BROAD MOVEMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF EDUCATION IN THE SOUTH

ALMOST coincidently with the recent meetings of the southern educational conference at Athens, Ga., and the trip thither of a large party of prominent educators from the north the announcement was made that John D. Rockefeller had given $1,000,000 to be devoted to educational institutions in the south. The facts leading up to the bestowal of this magnificent gift show that no great movement takes place without a motive behind it and without having been previously thought out by master minds. There is no probability that Mr. Rockefeller would have bestowed his million without some guarantee that it would be distributed under the supervision of disinterested almoners who have the subject of education at heart.

Such a body of men peculiarly well fitted for this work was formed a few months ago for the express purpose of dispensing the gifts of philanthropic millionaires. This body of educators was organized last March under a congressional charter, and its purposes were set forth as aiming to provide money "to aid in the maintenance and improvement of educational institutions already established in all sections of the United States and to develop the public school system in the rural districts by the proper application of funds contributed by such wealthy men of this country as might feel disposed to assist in the public spirited endeavor to uplift the masses." It had particularly in mind the promotion of the cause of learning in the south, as it was felt that that section has not received its proper proportion of the funds hitherto applied to educational purposes. It is said that more than $1,000,000 were available at the outset, and other large sums, including probably the million recently donated by Mr. Rockefeller, were practically in sight. This movement shows that many of the millionaires of this country are already absorbing the Carnegie idea that the best way to make good citizens is to educate them, and the best way to spend a large fortune is in the interest of education. Mr. Rockefeller has already most conclusively proved his interest by his donations to various institutions of learning, particularly the University of Chicago, which has received from him nearly $7,000,000. Other rich men are falling into line, and it may soon be said of this country of millionaires that it is the country of philanthropists as well. As intimated, wealthy men may be ready to invest money in worthy institutions when assured that it will be conservatively and properly disbursed. In this instance the existence of the two great bodies working co-ordinately—the general education board and the southern education board, the latter in a sense within and under the general direction of the former—assures the most extensive and beneficent dispensing of the funds.

Some of the foremost members of the southern education board are included in the general board as trustees. Among them are Dr. J. L. M. Curry, former minister to Spain and at present our envoy to the coronation event at Madrid; Robert C. Ogden of New York, president of the board of trustees, Hampton institute, under whose leadership the educational movement in the south has made great progress and who has made a comprehensive study of "southern needs and opportunities;" Dr. Daniel C. Gilman, president of the Carnegie institution at Washington; Morris K. Jesup, trustee and treasurer of the Slater board; Walter H. Page, a native of the south, at present editor of World's Work, New York; Dr. Albert Shaw, editor of the American Review of Reviews; F. T. Gates, George Foster Peabody, treasurer, and the Rev. Wallace Butterick, secretary and executive officer.

The general board has its permanent executive offices at 116 Nassau street, New York city, whence all its operations will be directed. The association, says the secretary, is the crystallized result of years of agitation. "People interested in the educational needs of the south, seeing the enormous amounts of money being employed in the development of the education of the north, have earnestly sought to interest northern capital in the more needy institutions of the south. The north has repeatedly been besought to come to the relief of southern education. These demands, however, while partly met, have been confronted with one almost insuperable difficulty, and that is the hesitation of the northern capitalist to invest his money in any particular institution without having first secured a comprehensive view of the entire field of southern needs so as to assure himself that his money will go where it is most needed. One object of the association is to provide a vehicle through which capitalists of the north who desire to assist the great work of southern education may act with assurance that their money will be wisely used. It is believed that the character of the men comprising the board will go far toward giving such assurance and that it will be the aim of the board to take a comprehensive view of the entire educational needs of the south, covering both races and all phases of education from common schools to the highest university culture."

It is with full cognizance of these facts and with perfect trust in the board that Mr. Rockefeller has given his million unhampered by any condition, "not as an endowment of which the income only is to be spent, but as a fund to be used outright, as the general education board sees fit." Mention of the board's personnel would be far from complete without special reference to its president, William H. Baldwin, Jr., president of the Long Island railroad, a man of great activity in public affairs and a citizen of whom New York ought to be proud. He is a son of William H. Baldwin of Boston, who for many years has carried on a notable philanthropic work with his famous Christian Union. This venerable philanthropist is scarcely less famous in New England than the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, although he has been an organizer within purely local lines. The work Mr. Baldwin has done in starting boys and young men on the road to upright living is inestimable, and a living exemplar of the senior Baldwin's integrity and public spirit is W. H. Baldwin, Jr., who was educated in Boston's public schools, graduated from Harvard, became identified with railroads fourteen years ago and now at the age of only thirty-nine holds an important position in the railway world.

EARLE J. GRELLERT.

THE BARBER AGAIN.

Barbers have been renowned for all time for loquacity, and one member of the profession who practices in the city of London is no exception to the rule. If the customer's opinion of the weather is unproductive, he will suggest the war, vaccination and pingpong in regular rotation.

Th other day a particularly grumpy customer who had suffered much and who knew the programme by heart determined to make a bold bid for a shave in silence. As he entered he said:

"No, I don't think it's mild for the time of year; of course I shall be glad when it's over, like everybody else. Yes, vaccinated in four places, and all of 'em taken. Haven't seen the pingpong tournament, but play at home sometimes."

The knight of the scissors was staggered for a moment, but, recovering himself, inquired:

"And do you like these 'ere wooden pingpong bats better'n the vellum, sir?"

ROYAL FAMILY'S "STAMPS."

None of the members of the king of England's family uses stamps on his letters. The substitution is a circular impression bearing the monogram "E. R." with a little "VII." in the lower curve of the "E." The monogram is surmounted by the royal crown.

TORTURE BY THE "WATER CURE" IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

THE Spanish-American war, with its consequent campaigns in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, has been the means of introducing many new words into the English language, or, rather, of popularizing in the United States words and phrases that until recently were almost unknown in this country. Among them are several quite expressive, and there are others in which the original meanings have been distorted or changed. The latest to become prevalent in this country is that of the "water cure," which is now used with a sinister significance not by any means compatible with its true rendering as merely another word for hydropathy.

Unfortunately evidences have multiplied that the form of torture known as the "water cure" has been in vogue in the Philippines during the past year and has been applied not only by the native scouts, but by our own soldiers. The evidence supplied to the official investigating committee on the Philippines has proved this beyond cavil, and it is now the purpose of the administration to bring the guilty parties to book and punish them severely.

Several soldiers have testified as to the infliction of this so called "water cure" and in the main have corroborated the charge that Americans in the Philippines have been guilty of applying torture for the purpose of extorting from the natives confessions not otherwise procurable. This must be admitted, to the shame though it be of our army and our civilization. "During my service in the Philippines," says one of our returned fighters, "I assisted in administering the 'water cure' to twelve or fifteen natives, the purpose of the torture being to extort confessions as to where arms were concealed by the insurgents. This is about the way it would happen: We would catch a Filipino out in the mountains somewhere, and if he would not confess where his arms were concealed we would give him the 'cure.' Ordinarily four men would seize the insurrecto, one for each arm and one for each leg, throw him flat upon his back and put a gun barrel crosswise in his mouth. After that one of the men would pour water from a big earthen jug into the fellow's mouth. When he began to roll his eyes and look wild, we would stand him up and tell him to 'habla,' or talk. Sometimes one jugful was enough, and he'd tell where the rifles and ammunition were hidden, but most of the time it would take three jugs, and I have seen as many as five used."

Two sergeants gave corroborative testimony under oath to the senate committee that the presidente of Igbaras, suspected of being a traitor to the American cause, was cruelly subjected to the "cure" and yet was out and about the next day as though nothing had happened. The natives looked on unsympathetically and seemed to regard the proceeding somewhat as a matter of course.

"The presidente's mouth was held open and water was allowed to run into it from a small tank for from five to ten minutes. When he was so full of water that his body was swollen, he was rolled violently on the ground, and the water gushed from his mouth. He squealed, his eyes became bloodshot, and he struggled like a crazy man. It took several soldiers to hold him."

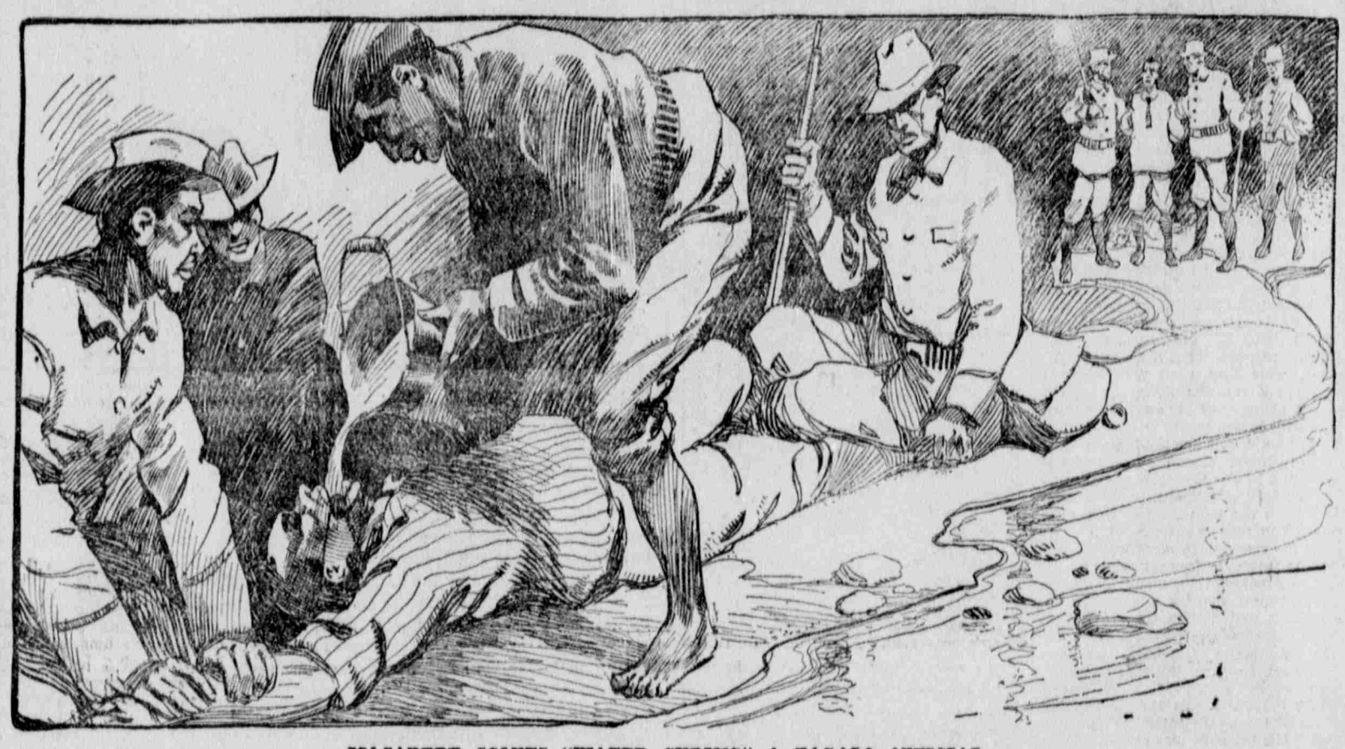
Another witness who had been a first lieutenant in the army said that he had seen as many as twenty applications of the "cure" and had never seen any one die as the result of it, though he had heard of a death and seen a member of the hospital corps working over a native who had been rendered unconscious, but recovered.

Sufficient evidence has been cited, however, to show the prevalence of the "water cure" and the method of operating it. Primarily it was used to extort a confession from a recalcitrant prisoner, who was first laid on his back, bound hand and foot, while large quantities of water were forced down his throat until he could hold no more. Pressure was then applied to the stomach for the purpose of relieving the victim, when, if he still remained obdurate, more water was forced into him, the process being repeated until the desired result was obtained or the unfortunate prisoner succumbed to the torture.

It unfortunately seems to be the general opinion of the American soldiers in the Philippines that in no other way can the natives be brought to a realizing sense of the situation and that, having been long used to the severe methods, including most terrible tortures, of the Spaniards, they respect no other means that might be employed to reduce them to submission. The earlier period of the war knew no such occurrence, and the officers who were at first engaged and have since retired disclaim all knowledge of them.

Without citing the fact as in any manner excusing the conduct of the American soldiers, it may be said with truth that the "water cure" treatment was derived by them from the native Macabebe scouts, who employed it so successfully in the recovering of concealed rifles and bolos as to attract attention. It did not, however, originate with them, but was employed by the Spaniards centuries ago. The Spaniards, as is well known, are past masters in the application of tortures, having devised more ingenious infernal machines for the purpose than any other people in the world. The atrocities they practiced upon the natives of the West Indies during their pacification of America resulted in the extermination of millions, according to their own historians. They burned their prisoners alive, broiled them on gridirons, subjected them to all kinds of torture, and, in fact, the mildest species was that of the "water cure." That the Spanish inquisition subjected its victims to the most terrible tortures the mind of man can devise is a matter of history, and the trial by torture survived longer in Spain than in any other country. According to the ancient law, the eliciting of evidence or confession by torture was divided into the "question ordinary," which used the mildest means, and the "question extraordinary," where life was placed in jeopardy. The "water cure" doubtless would be classed with the "ordinary, as death rarely occurs from its application. Torture was abolished in England about the middle of the last century; it has never been sanctioned in the United States and the temper of our people will not tolerate its usage now in the twentieth century.

JAMES L. ALDERTS.



MACABEBE SCOUTS "WATER CURING" A TAGALO OFFICIAL.

ALFONSO XIII. OF SPAIN, BORN A KING, SOON TO RECEIVE HIS CROWN

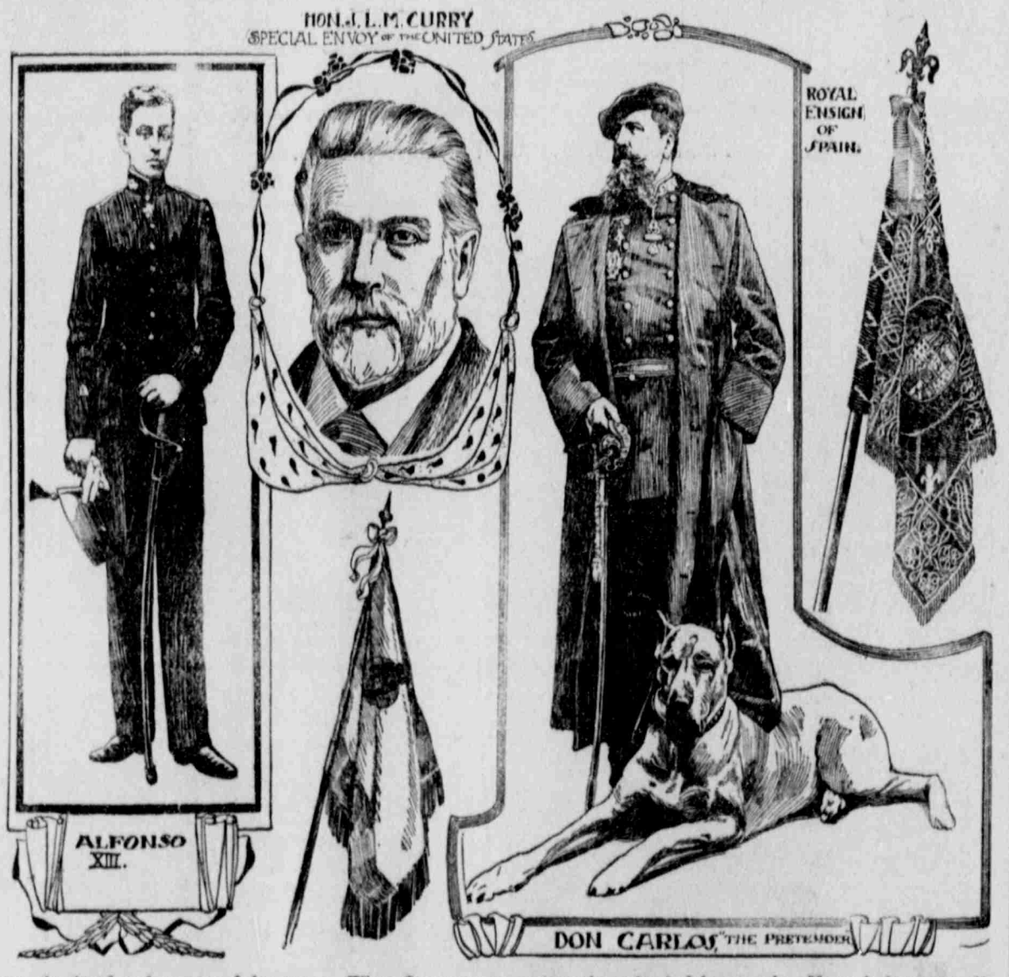
THE recent arrival in Spain of our special embassador, the Hon. J. L. M. Curry, who will represent this country at the young king's accession and birthday on the 17th inst., is an event of more than ordinary significance. Dr. Curry, who is now seventy-six years of age, was by no means a young man when he represented this country as minister at the Spanish court, in 1885-88, and yet he was one of the diplomats gathered in an antechamber of the royal palace at Madrid to bear witness that a king had been born to Queen Regent Christina May 17, 1886.

Another veteran in diplomacy was present at that unique gathering in the palace sixteen years ago, grizzled old Sagasta, then, as now, premier of Spain. It was he who announced to the waiting populace outside the gates: "A king is born! Long live the king!" Previously, however, Sagasta and all the attendant diplomats had had a glimpse of the infant Alfonso, who was passed around for their inspection on a huge silver salver borne by a lady in waiting to the queen. The great men assembled were treated not only to ocular, but auricular evidence of the new baby king's presence when he let out a lusty yell, causing the lady in waiting to beat a precipitate retreat. Dr. Curry was also present at the baptism, two weeks later, and at the "church going," or first public appearance of the queen after the birth of the king, when she went to give thanks for a son and heir. Aside from his intimate acquaintance with the royal family, our envoy is eminently fitted for his mission, being high in favor both with the court and the people of Spain and possessed of qualities which enable him to stand with credit beside the representatives of all the other powers.

It is regarded as a strange coincidence that there should occur two crownings of kings—one in England, one in Spain—the same year, and within a few weeks of each other, especially when it is recalled that England and Spain at one time came near having their destinies united under two sovereigns on one throne. That was back in the time of Philip II. and "Bloody Mary," however, and since then the two nations have grown very far apart, the one attaining to the magnitude of a first class power and the other shrinking within dimensions hardly comparable with what they were in the time of Charles I. and his immediate successors. The Spain of that period, which boasted the discoveries of a Columbus and gathered in its cities trophies won by hundreds of "conquistadores" in the new world, now exists only in the nominal titles borne by the youthful king, such as "king of Jerusalem, of Gibraltar, of the Indies, East and West, and of the occidental sea." Only the shadow of Spain's greatness remains to him, and, if we may believe the reports that emanate from his kingdom, only a shred of the loyalty that once was so strong for old King Ferdinand, Queen Isabella, Charles I., Charles IV. and even for the present king's great-grandfather, Ferdinand VII.

Though personally popular, Alfonso XIII. will be compelled to bear the odium attaching to the acts of his ancestors, particularly of his father, Alfonso XII., and his grandmother, Isabella II. Only sentiment has supported the Spanish throne thus far through the regency of the queen mother, Maria Christina, archduchess of Austria, that sentiment which was voiced by the noble Canovas del Castillo at the time of Alfonso's birth, when, putting personal ambition aside and having only the well being of his country at heart, he said to the people: "I call upon you all for a truce to party strife. All Spaniards will respect the helpless situation of the widowed mother and the fatherless child. I give place gladly to those who politically oppose me, and I place the mother and the child under the palladium of the chivalry of the Spanish people."

It is a question, now that the mother has ostensibly resigned into the boy's unpracticed hands the heavy burden she has so long supported, whether or not the people will much longer allow sentiment to sway them. The Spaniards are proverbially patient and long suffering; they have borne treatment such as no other people would have suffered from their rulers; they have been plundered and oppressed for centuries in succession, and it is this legacy of tyranny that young Alfonso receives from his ancestors, without the physical stamina, or perhaps the moral courage, to sustain the burden. The youngest sovereign in Europe, he is also the most heavily handicapped by the deeds of his predecessors.



When Canovas magnanimously waived his claims, the Spanish-American war was a thing unthought of, and Spain, though she had descended to humiliating depths, had not been deprived of her last colonial possessions in America. Now, shorn of prestige and territory, she has reached a desperate stage, as is shown by the recent temper of her people. Never before were disturbances so frequent in the land. There have been formidable riots, approaching rebellions, over the unjust imposition of the octroi, against the clergy, against the bakers, against the introduction of labor saving machinery, and all Catalonia was not long since in a ferment. The outbreak having the most sinister significance, however, was that which occurred last year on the occasion of the Princess Mercedes' marriage to Prince Charles of Bourbon. The anarchistic, anticlerical and bread riots were formidable, but they did not have the deep meaning of this protest of the people against the marriage of the heiress apparent of the Spanish crown to the son of a former chief of staff in the Carlist army. The wedding festivities were practically in secret, though they took place in the great palace at Madrid, and neither Mercedes nor her husband dared appear in public.

The true significance of this popular outburst lay in the fact that a Spanish princess and heiress apparent had bestowed her hand upon a foreign Bourbon, and not the greatest of the Bourbons either. A great opportunity was lost, perhaps forever, of uniting the rival families that have for the past seventy years been quarreling over the throne of Spain. If the Princess Mercedes had only bestowed her hand upon Don Jaime, son of Duke Carlos and heir to his claims to the throne, the feud might have been settled and a great future opened to Spain.

There is no question that Don Carlos, duke of Madrid, is the rightful heir to the throne under the ancient Salic law; neither is there any question as to the possession by him and his family of more qualities making for popularity than Alfonso and his sisters have. While Don Carlos has not shown himself a kingly man in every sense, yet he is virile, vigorous and impressive. He is now fifty-four years old, his eldest son, Don Jaime, is thirty-two, and either has a more "taking" personality than young Alfonso. Again, Don Carlos' wife, "Queen Maria of Spain," was the Princess Berta de Rohan, allied to great Austrian houses, and, it is declared, of more ancient and honorable descent than the present queen regent. The motto of her house is, "If I were not a Rohan, I might desire to be king," and it dates back a thousand years.

Ardent and impetuous Don Jaime, who is now a captain in a Russian regiment of dragoons, has recently issued a manifesto calling upon the Carlists to hold themselves in readiness for a universal rising against Alfonso and in favor of the "only legitimate king of Spain." Sentiment aside, there is a vast difference between the grandson of corrupt Isabella II. and the only heirs in the male line of Charles IV. Don Carlos, who styles himself King Charles VII., has the right on his side; the only question to be decided, and it will surely come to the test some day, will be, Who has the might?

Despite the fact that there will be no coronation in the true sense, there will yet be a vast expenditure for balls and pageants, for festivities on a grand scale, for ceremonial processions and finally for the great bullfight, without which no Spanish fete is considered complete. The coronation of King Edward VII. will surpass the Spanish ceremonial in expenditure and perhaps also in the gathering of royalties, peers and peeresses, but in one respect Alfonso's accession will be absolutely unique, and that is in the bullfight, which will be reserved as the last great spectacle.

Another coincidence, both Alfonso and King Edward have lost near relatives recently. Alfonso's grandfather, Don Francis d'Assisi, duke of Cadiz, husband of Queen Isabella, who was born May 13, 1822, and for many years has lived in obscurity, died in France April 17. This should plunge the court into mourning if it does not cast a pall over the festivities.

The hotels and lodging houses of Madrid are already filled to overflowing, their capacity being only 25,000, while at least 100,000 visitors are expected. The government purposes erecting temporary barracks and converting public buildings into hotels. There is a scarcity of provisions also, and a vision of famine appears.

What the Spanish are asking is not will Alfonso make a good king—for it is argued that he will, judging from his maternal training and proclivities—but will he make a great king. Can he check advancing anarchism, make bread plentiful and put down Carlism?

He can speak all the languages of Europe, is tractable yet firm in disposition, has an inquiring mind and is devout; is earnest, yet playful; can fence well, ride well, likes to hunt and loves the army. But will he be equal to the great emergency?

EGBERT L. MANTON.

SPRING GLEANINGS.

The Japanese eat more fish than any other people in the world. With them meat eating is a foreign innovation confined to the rich, or, rather, to those rich people who prefer it to the national diet.

Street corner story tellers still earn a good livelihood in Japan. In Tokyo alone 600 of them ply their trade, provided with a small table, a fan and a paper rapper to illustrate and emphasize the points of their tales.

It is considered that Japanese men are among the best needleworkers in the world, their only equals being the women of Russia.

There is no wild breed of fowl to which the Brahma or Cochin can be traced. The gamecock seems to be descended from the Cingalese jungle fowl.

There are no undertakers in Japan. When a person dies, his nearest relatives put him into a coffin and bury him. The mourning does not begin until after burial.

The city of Tokyo has 800 public baths, where some 300,000 persons bathe daily at a cost of about a cent each.

Another effort will be made to secure from congress an appropriation sufficient to exterminate the water hyacinth, which has of late years spread so rapidly in Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida streams as to seriously harass and injure the logging, timber and oyster business.

Fish are sold alive in Japan, the peddlers conveying them through the streets in tanks.

Electricity has increased the power of seacoast lights to that of 3,000,000 candles. The mineral oil lamp of the "Doty system," which was in almost universal use previous to the introduction of electricity, did not exceed 54,000 candles in the strength of its illumination.

A Japanese auction is a most solemn affair. The public do not call out their bids, but write their names, together with the amount they are willing to pay, on a slip of paper and put it in a box. These are looked through, and the article is awarded to the person who has made the biggest offer.

The little town of Malin, in Bohemia, produces the finest horseradish in the world. Malin horseradish is known all over Europe, and one of the department of agriculture experts at Washington has been successful in obtaining a large number of cuttings of the best variety of this famous plant, which are to be distributed among the growers in this country.

There is a sword on exhibition at Belfast, Ireland, of more than local interest. It was formerly carried by William of Orange and was given by him to the first Earl of Portland, who afterward was governor of Jamaica. The weapon passed through many hands and about 100 years ago came into the possession of the Balfour family, where it now is. The hilt of the sword is of ivory, carved to represent the Flemish lion trampling on the dogs of France.

Paris has about 30,000 dramshops, one to every eighty-two inhabitants.

One thousand acres of forest supply fuel for Paris for barely a week.